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# HARVARD LAW REVIEW.

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THE LAW SCHOOL. — Since the statistics of the School below were prepared the registration in the School has passed four hundred and risen to four hundred and two by the addition of one to the third-year and two to the first-year class. Of the first-year men, one is a graduate of Harvard and one of De Pauw, the latter bringing the number of colleges other than Harvard represented in that class up to fifty-one. It is just five years since the REVIEW had the pleasure of announcing that the registration had passed two hundred and fifty, and now the School is more than half as large again as it was then.

In the last number it was said that the returns showed a most gratifying increase in the numbers of the School. More than this, it now appears that the School as a whole, and each class, is larger than ever before. The following figures show the total registration at this time of year for six successive years : —

	1889-90	1890-91	1891-92	1892-93	1893-94	1894-95
Third year . . .	50	44	48	69	66	81
Second year . . .	59	73	112	119	122	135
First year . . .	86	101	142	135	140	170
Specials . . .	59	61	61	71	23	13
Total . . .	254	279	363	394	351	399
						Now 402

The registration of the current year is noteworthy in several respects. In the first place the number of specials is less than one fifth of the number of two years ago. This may be partly accounted for by the fact that the privileges of specials under the future order of things do not seem to be clearly or widely understood. A special has, and will have, every privilege of the School in as full a respect as a regular student, with the single exception that he must in the future attain creditable standing in order to get his LL.B.; and he is not and will not be called upon to take more than the present admission examinations. One would think,

therefore, that the list would be a larger one. The explanation is to be found in the fact that specials who do not work have been thoroughly discouraged, and for those who desire to work hard the regular classes are as accessible. Probably after the increase in the requirements for regular standing goes into effect next year the number of the specials will rise again. The pendency of the increase in requirements also accounts for the second noteworthy figure, the increase of over twenty per cent in the numbers of the first-year class. But the remarkable size of the third-year class, also twenty per cent larger than that of last year, though formed out of a second-year class really no larger, is perfectly normal, and must be due to a recognition both of the increase in the quantity of instruction offered and of the advantages of a third year of study.

The usual table of the sources of the degrees held by the members of the first-year classes is next given for the five years last past. Under the sources of degrees men are divided again according to their respective homes.

## HARVARD GRADUATES.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.
1893	34	1	19	54
1894	30	2	17	49
1895	32	4	13	49
1896	23	7	17	47
1897	27	2	15	44

## GRADUATES OF OTHER COLLEGES.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.
1893	5	9	21	35
1894	7	20	38	65
1895	8	14	30	52
1896	14	11	45	70
1897	9	12	56	77

## HOLDING NO DEGREE.

Class of	From Massachusetts.	New England outside of Massachusetts.	Outside of New England.	Total.	Total of Class.
1893	4	1	7	12	101
1894	20	1	10	31	142
1895	16	3	14	34	135
1896	10	4	9	23	140
1897	26	7	16	49	170

Thirty-nine colleges send one man apiece, ten colleges send from two to four men each, and Yale sends eight; Leland Stanford, Jr. sends none this year, as against five last year, — a decrease probably due to the starting of the Law School there; on the other hand, the University of California sends four in place of one. The greatest matter for congratulation here is probably to be found in the increased number of other colleges which send their graduates hither, — fifty this year, as against about thirty last year. This goes to show that the influence of the School gains steadily. Another bit of evidence to the same effect is that there are seventy-two real strangers, men who are neither residents of New England nor Harvard graduates, as against fifty-four such last year.

IN a valuable address delivered by Mr. James C. Carter of New York to the last graduating class of the Law School of the Columbian University,

(entitled "Hints to Young Lawyers,") there is one passage which will be especially interesting to those who have studied in the Harvard Law School within the last twenty-five years. Mr. Carter says: "The importance to the lawyer, and especially to the young lawyer, of making each task he may be called upon to perform the special means of enlarging and disciplining his own powers will be better understood if we consider the different degrees of ease with which the same knowledge may be acquired under different conditions of the mind. When the student, under the influence of no other motive than the feeling that it is necessary for his general purposes, applies himself to the study of some special subject, he is obliged to compel the attention by a conscious exertion of his will,—always a painful labor; the work soon becomes irksome, the attention is constantly diverted, the impression on the mind is slight and evanescent, and the task is apt to be thrown aside in disgust. Far otherwise, however, when the lawyer is employed upon some concrete question arising in the actual affairs of men, when there is an immediate object in view; . . . the whole mind is wakened into activity, and experiences the highest of intellectual pleasures, that of overcoming difficulties; it is not satisfied with one acquisition, but demands more; what would otherwise be work becomes play." And, Mr. Carter goes on, "You will begin to see that the law consists of a few general principles, and that its variety and difference proceed only from the infinite variety of the facts with which it deals." He is speaking, as his context shows, of the actual working up of a case in practice. Nevertheless, the case system of instruction, to its credit be it said, is fairly described by his words. No one can study law with the actual cases before him without seeing the dramatic force of the situations which they present, or without experiencing "the highest of all intellectual pleasures" in mastering for himself the difficulties which have been struggled with by past and present generations of judges in their attempts to apply "a few general principles of justice" to the infinite diversity of the facts which have been brought before them by *Angus and Dalton*, *Perrin and Blake*, *Patch and White*, *Dred Scot* and *Sandford*, and the millions of less known litigants, whose troubles have been none the less real, though they serve now only to add bulk to the digests. There are, and will be, men who study law only because they see in it a necessary means to a living, as they would work a treadmill in the poorhouse; but to those who will care for their profession, and love it as it deserves to be loved by its every member, a distinguishing merit of the case system of study is to be found in that close friendship with the courts in their actual work of doing justice which Mr. Carter urges, and which his forcible oratory should inspire.

In another respect also Mr. Carter's address is valuable; for when a man of his standing in the profession speaks out to his juniors from his own experience they cannot fail to get some insight into the causes of success; and a man of his standing rarely speaks out so freely.

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CAN ONE CHEATED INTO PLEADING GUILTY MAINTAIN AN ACTION FOR IT?—In *Johnson v. Girdwood*, 28 N. Y. Suppl. 151 (N. Y. City Common Pleas), it appeared, upon demurrer to the complaint, that the plaintiff was arrested and prosecuted on the false and malicious complaint of the defendant, and that on the representation of the defendant that a plea of guilty "would benefit the plaintiff, and would terminate the proceedings